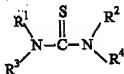


## ABSTRACT

"Complexing Agents"

5 A substituted thiourea having the general formula



- 10 characterised in that each of  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  independently comprises an alkyl, alkaryl or aryl group or a substituted derivative thereof, and contains at least one fluorine atom, and in that each of  $\text{R}^3$  and  $\text{R}^4$  is selected from the group which consists of H, alkyl, alkaryl and aryl and substituted derivatives thereof, including fluorine-containing derivatives. A method for producing the substituted thiourea is disclosed, and a
- 15 method for extracting a noble metal such as gold from a matrix by treating the matrix with the substituted thiourea is also disclosed.

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